

Reach for the SKIES

Learn about CVS' keiki activities
See p. B-1.



PTA

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, HAWAII

Engineers train their companies

STAFF SGT. GAELN LOWERS
8th Theater Sustainment Command
Public Affairs

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii — The 561st Engineer Company and the 95th Eng. Co., 84th Eng. Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, deployed, here, at the end of April, for a long mission and training exercise.

The key objectives of the engineers' deployment is to construct and repair the Keeamuku Main Support Route, validate combat roads and trails, and participate in a variety of demolition ranges.

While at PTA, the companies will participate in live-fire exercises, to include night fire and reflexive fire, and community events that invite schools to see the engineers' equipment and continue on the combat road construction.

The companies took many lessons away from the past few weeks of training and the missions, said Capt.

Jonathan Browning, 561st commander. The 561st Soldiers received excellent training during the M4/M16 range, which they used as a building block for the upcoming live-fire exercise.

A community relations event with elementary school students was a great success that continued to build rapport between the military and community.

The demolition ranges will increase the Soldiers' proficiency with building charges and educate them on creating improvised explosives.

All of the Soldiers in the 95th Eng. Co. will receive an opportunity to construct a grapeshot charge, a platter charge, a brashier charge and an improvised bangalore without any safety incidences or lost or damaged equipment.

The engineers will continue their mission and training exercise at PTA through May.

Photo courtesy 84th Eng. Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

Soldiers with the 95th Eng. train on controlled explosives while deployed to PTA for a monthlong mission and training exercise. The engineers performed construction to repair the main supply route, practiced with different types of explosive charges and fine-tuned their Soldier skills.



Sgt. 1st Class Karry James, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

Spc. Christina Williams, information technology specialist, 94th AAMDC, marks off a way point during the land navigation testing portion of the command's "Best Sea Dragon" Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier Warrior Challenge, May 7.

'Sea Dragons' name SOY/NCOY

SGT. 1ST CLASS KARRY JAMES
94th Army Air and Missile Defense
Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — Staff Sgt. Mark Giaque and Spc. Christina Williams, both information technologists, are the winners of the 2014 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command "Best Sea Dragon" Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier quarterly boards, respectively.

The annual competition, May 6-7, usually lasts about five days, but this year, it was cut to two because of the unit's high operations tempo.

"This competition allows Soldiers to step outside of their comfort zone and show that they are the best and are committed to excellence," said Command Sgt. Maj. Finis Dodson, senior enlisted leader, 94th AAMDC. "The Army needs Soldiers that are tactically and technically competent and resilient, as well as those who are constantly seeking ways to better not only themselves, but also those around them daily."

The Soldiers' knowledge and physical endurance were tested during the competition in events, ranging from the Army physical fitness test, night land navigation, warrior tasks and drills to interacting with the media, writing an essay and being questioned by a panel of sergeants major in an oral board.

"It's all the things that I expected," said Giaque.

Just a couple of hours into the competition, both Giaque and Williams remarked they had no doubt they were going to be declared the

See SOY A-4

45th takes over CMRE mission downrange

SPC. ERIN SHERWOOD
45th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs
8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — More than 100 Soldiers from the 45th Sustainment Brigade, 8th Theater Sust. Command, cased their unit's colors during a deployment ceremony, May 13, in preparation for their upcoming mission to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in support of the Central Command's Materiel Recovery Element (CMRE) mission.

"This deployment is consistent with the long line of outstanding combat performances of the many Soldiers that have fought under these colors in the past going back to World War II," said Maj. Gen. Stephen R. Lyons, commander, 8th TSC.

The 45th will be the sole brigade dedicated to the CMRE in Afghanistan, centering on the tracking, sorting and recovery of Army equipment from the entire country for return to the U.S.

Afghanistan is about the size of Texas.

"Upon arrival, they will assume command over two engineer battalions, one combat sustainment support battalion, and the responsibility for the performance oversight of a wide range of contractor support," Lyons said. "In addition, they will be the lead coordination element for the synchronization of strategic providers like the U.S. Transportation Command, the Defense Logistics Agency, the Army Materiel Command,

and many others."

It marks new ground for the logistics unit. Previous deployments placed the 45th at the forefront of sustainment capabilities, supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in 2009 and 2012, and providing support to multiple combat units through human resources, transportation and supply.

"This is a very historic mission for our Army," said Col. Gregory Boyd, commander, 45th Sust. Bde. "We are responsible for completing operations on all Operation Enduring Freedom sites before the theater transitions to the Resolute Support Mission, post-2014."

In preparation for its deployment, the unit underwent a 14-day certification exercise at the Mission Command Training Center on Schofield Barracks.

"The certification was a check to see what we're good on, what areas we need to work on and where we need to be to fulfill the real-world mission," said Sgt. 1st Class Brian Evans, battle captain for the 45th.

The training mimicked real-world scenario, and the staff was expected to work together to figure out solutions. Participants included the 1st Sust. Cmd. (Expeditionary) out of Fort Hood, Texas; senior mentors from Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; Department of the Army civilians; and observers from the 82nd Sust. Bde., the unit currently running the CMRE mission.

Closing the deployment ceremony, a moment of silence allowed deploying Soldiers to reflect on their challenging mission

ahead before being released to their family and friends in the audience.

"This mission requires adaptive, innovative, resilient Soldiers, as well as committed, competent leaders of character," Lyons concluded. "Fortunately, these traits are consistent with the reputation of the 45th Sust. Bd



The 45th Sust. Bde.'s command team, Col. Gregory Boyd (left), commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Dana Mason Jr., senior enlisted leader, prepare to case the colors, Tuesday, before beginning their mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Gaeln Lowers, 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Soldiers from the 45th Sust. Bde., 8th TSC, case their unit's colors during a deployment ceremony, Tuesday, in preparation for their upcoming deployment to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in support of the Central Command's Materiel Recovery Element mission. (Photo has been altered from its original form; background elements have been removed.)



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Preparation for hurricane season begins now

In part one of three, learn about different hurricane categories

SARAH PACHECO
Staff Writer

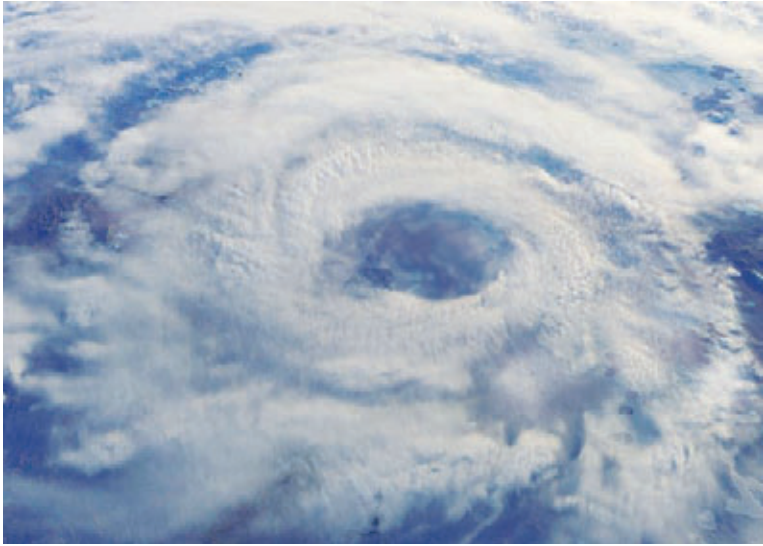
WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Hurricane season in the Central Pacific Region, which includes the Hawaiian Islands, begins June 1 and lasts until Nov. 30.

However, safety experts advise that the time to prepare for a possible disaster is now.

“You can predict the season, but you definitely can’t know when a disaster is going to strike,” said Joe Barker, installation management emergency officer, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security; U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii.

“There is a time of the year when (hurricanes) are most likely to happen because the weather conditions are right, but what usually causes a hurricane, tsunami or a water spout? Mother Nature,” Barker added, noting that disaster planning should be part of everyday life, and service members, families and civilians can turn awareness into action by being informed, making a plan, building a kit and getting involved.

“Living in Hawaii is not like living in the mainland; we cannot just go to the next state over and get help,” Barker said. “The nearest help, to us, is 3,000 miles away and would take 96-140-plus hours to get help and supplies to the island by air or boat. So, if you don’t have a kit when a disaster strikes, you will need to depend on others, and they may



Courtesy photo

Hurricane season arrives June 1. The disaster preparedness training to be done for hurricanes can also be applied to earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanoes.

not have what you need to get you through the disaster.”

The National Weather Service defines a hurricane as a tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 74 mph or higher. Winds weaker than 74 mph classify the cyclone as a tropical storm.

The strength of a hurricane is measured on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale, which ranks hurricanes into categories from 1-5, based on sustained wind speed, that estimate potential property damage.

Hurricanes reaching Category 3 and higher are considered major hurricanes because of their potential for significant loss of life and damage. However, Category 1 and 2 storms are still dangerous and require preventative measures.

On average, four or five tropical cyclones appear in the Central Pacific, each year, most commonly between the months of July and September.

Hurricane Iniki, a Category 4 storm that pummeled Oahu and Kauai Sept. 11, 1992, was the most damaging hurricane in the state’s recorded history, causing billions in damage and the loss of six lives.

The last hurricane to impact the main Hawaiian Islands was Hurricane Flossie, which passed within 100 miles of the Big Island in August 2007, bringing with it rain and tropical storm-force winds.

Most recently, Tropical Storm Flossie (no relation to the aforementioned hurricane) passed through the central Hawaiian Islands as a minimal tropical

Online Resources

To learn what to do before, during and after an emergency, visit the following websites:

- www.ready.gov.
- www.acsim.army.mil/readyarmy.
- www.redcross.org.
- www.citizenccorps.gov.
- www.fema.gov.
- www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil; click on “Emergency Management.”

More information can be found in Hawaiian Electric Company’s free disaster preparedness handbook, available by calling 543-7511 or online at www.heco.com.



storm, July 2013.

While hurricane season lasts approximately six months, there are other forces of nature — an active volcano and its seismic activity, tsunamis triggered by events occurring thousands of miles away — that make disaster prep a priority in all Hawaii households.

“We live in an area known as the ‘Ring of Fire,’ and there are earthquakes and volcanic activity happening all around us every day,” Barker said. “Even in paradise, disasters happen. It is like driving down the road. You don’t plan to have an accident, but the chance is always there.”

(Editor’s note: See next week’s “Hawaii Army Weekly” to learn more about hurricane shelter locations and what to stock in your emergency kit.)

BRIDGING THE BASICS

Today’s Army must maintain equipment we have

COMMAND SGT. MAJ.
PATRICK M. GANACIAS

84th Engineer Battalion
130th Eng. Brigade
8th Theater Sustainment Command

As leaders in the Army, we must strive to be the very best in our profession by developing our future leaders, building the team and accomplishing the mission.

Engineers cannot execute the latter without our equipment.

Most Soldiers may think of a pre-9/11 Army when they hear “bridging the basics” or “how it used to be.” Bridging the basics is about a basic fundamental of Soldiering. It’s about one of the key fundamentals of leadership. It’s about the basics of maintaining assigned equipment.

Being at war for the past 13 years has



Ganacias

taken a toll on both deployed and rear detachment equipment. One of the basic fundamentals we need to get back into is equipment maintenance. This warfighting capability can and will impact unit readiness.

It’s time to re-engage the Command Maintenance Discipline Program (CMDP) and understand its purpose for all units.

All users of military equipment must take the time to read the regulations, standard operating procedures and technical manuals in order to effectively reinforce the standards of maintaining equipment readiness. The purpose of the CMDP is to establish maintenance discipline as regulatory guidance and to standardize maintenance requirements.

The CMDP provides unit personnel with a listing of maintenance policy requirements, which serves as a checklist for internal management controls and eliminates repeat findings of noncompliance with policy.

As a result, CMDP makes the unit

more efficient with respect to time management and predictability for Soldiers and their training.

How do we get back to the basics of equipment maintenance, you ask?

The first thing is to understand your role. The operator or crew assigned to the equipment is responsible for conducting preventive maintenance checks and services (PMCS) and annotating deficiencies on the equipment inspection and maintenance worksheet, DA Form 5988E or DA Form 2404.

The operator is often the first to detect changes to the equipment’s condition and performance. PMCS is crucial to the success of unit maintenance operations; therefore, first-line supervisors should remain actively engaged during such process.

By conducting quality assurance and quality control, maintenance personnel will ensure the right part is ordered to repair the deficiency and update equipment status in TAMMS, or The Army Maintenance Management System. Often, the mechanics are also responsible

for installing the parts as they arrive. Therefore, unit leaders must supervise maintenance operations to ensure that operators, crews and maintenance personnel work as a team to sustain equipment to standard.

The method in which the 84th Engineer Battalion will ensure equipment maintenance discipline is by focusing on bridging the basics by incorporating maintenance discipline into leader development programs, changing the culture by enforcing standards and accountability, and conducting CMDP evaluations. All personnel are responsible for maintaining assigned equipment and to ensure its serviceability and operational readiness.

Today, as the Army downsizes and operates under budgetary restrictions, leaders must execute due diligence and take care of our existing equipment and resources.

Our current equipment may be the only equipment we get for a long time. Hence, all Soldiers must reinforce standards to bridge the basics of PMCS.

FOOTSTEPS in FAITH

Struggling with grief can lead to spiritual development

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) STACIE KERVIN
2nd Battalion, 6th Cavalry Regiment
25th Combat Aviation Brigade
25th Infantry Division

Spiritual maturity is facilitated by spiritual relationship.

Spiritual growth, just like human growth, is not a mechanical process.

People think if they follow a 5- or 12-step program, they will get where they want to be spiritually, but nothing could be further from the truth.

Often, the Lord puts us through situations in life that are painful. We do not understand in the moment what is going on and how God could possibly use this negative event for any good reason.

I remember when my brother passed away and that I did not understand how the Lord could let this happen. I was hurting and saw nothing beyond that moment.

My brother’s passing has led me into ministry and eventually becoming a chaplain. After allowing God into my life to heal and train me, I was able to look past the pain of the loss. I realized I was more spiritually mature and



Kervin

had a greater depth and understanding of grief and loss. I’ve also been able to better relate with and help those who are also dealing with their own losses in life.

The Lord put me in places where people were grieving from losses in their lives to minister and support them. Those individuals went on to help others who were also struggling with grief and loss.

“We are to grow up in all aspects into him who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according

to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love” (Ephesians 4:15-16).

Spiritual development is a relational process. Only the grace of Christ has the power to enable us to overcome.

Together, we can all grow into Christ by the knowledge of him as a person. To accomplish this, we must focus on what God is doing in the midst of what is happening in our lives. We must connect what is happening in our lives with how God is using it to transform us and help others in the kingdom of God.

Voices of Ohana

Summer is just around the corner. We want to know:

“What is your favorite beach to visit and why?”

Photos by U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs



“Ko Olina, because it has those four lagoons. That’s the best beach I’ve ever been to.”

Staff Sgt. Kyle Bayless
Co. B, 209th ASB,
25th CAB, 25th ID



“Bellows. It has nice, clear water, not too crowded, and there’s a shoppette on the base if you need anything.”

Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Cheasty
Co. D, 3-25th Avn. Regt.,
25th CAB, 25th ID



“The beaches at Ko Olina, because that’s where the family likes to go.”

Sgt. Alexander Langley
Co. B, 209th ASB,
25th CAB, 25th ID



“The North Shore, because it’s not that crowded and you have a lot of shoreline.”

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Daniel Peoples
2-6th Cav. Regt.,
25th CAB, 25th ID



“Turtle Bay. The weather is always the best in that area.”

Pfc. Eric Rachal
Co. B, 209th ASB,
25th CAB, 25th ID



Aiko Brum, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Col. Richard A. Fromm (left) receives the guidon as commander, USAG-HI, from Debra Zedalis, region director, IMCOM-Pacific, May 13, as former commander, Col. Daniel W. Whitney (right) and Command Sgt Maj. Philip J. Brunwald (center) look on.

Fromm welcomed as new garrison commander

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Col. Richard A. Fromm took command of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii from Col. Daniel Whitney during a change of command ceremony, here, Tuesday.

Coming to Hawaii from Kuwait, where he served the U.S. Army Central Command as the Air and Missile Defense Division chief, Fromm began his career as a Chemical Branch officer before an early transfer to Air Defense Artillery.

He will now oversee services for 95,000-plus customers across the garrison’s 22 installations and training areas on Oahu and the Big Island.

Fromm and his family were officially received by Debra Zedalis, region director, Installation Management Command-Pacific, and the ceremony’s reviewing officer.

“Richard, Lisa, CJ, Cole and Clay ... aloha and welcome to the IMCOM-Pacific Region ohana,” said Zedalis. “Col. Fromm, welcome back to the Installation Management Command. You are no stranger to the role of garrison commander, having commanded the Camp Casey garrison in Korea, and you come to us with great credentials from your last garrison commander job.”

Addressing the USAG-HI community, Fromm said, “I look forward to serving you over the next two years and improving the quality of life you all deserve.

“My wife and kids are looking forward to moving to Hawaii. They’ll be here in June,” said Fromm. “Twenty years ago, my wife said she wanted to go to Hawaii. Now, it’s finally coming true.”

For his next assignment, Whitney will deploy to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Whitney had made building upon the suc-

cesses of his predecessor his priority during his tenure. When he took command July 20, 2012, Whitney said he planned to follow the advice of one of his former brigade commanders, to “take a great unit and make it better.”

During his tenure as garrison commander, Whitney and his battle buddy, Command Sgt. Maj. Philip J. Brunwald, provided world-class support to U.S. Army-Pacific, 25th Infantry Division, 8th Theater Sustainment Command and the many commands within the overall installation footprint.

“The testament to this is the 2014 Army Community of Excellence (ACOE) Gold Medal recently awarded to USAG-HI as the number one best installation in the entire Army,” said Zedalis. “The gold medal is not easily attained. It represents the pinnacle of success, and being named the best at caring for people is the ultimate achievement.”

In addition to customer service, Zedalis added, the ACOE award also focused on strategic leadership, business results and improved processes.

“USAG-Hawaii scored the highest, IMCOM-wide, in strategic leadership, thanks in large measure to Col. Whitney,” sid Zedalis.

Whitney echoed Zedalis’ praise for Team Hawaii.

“We collectively won the Army Community of Excellence award,” said Whitney. “This is not just a garrison-centric proposition. This was awarded to the singularly best community — and I underscore community — as seeking excellence each and every day.”

Change of Command Photos

See photos from the change of command ceremony at www.flickr.com/USAGHawaii.

Army B-day event is June 13

Celebrate the 239th Army birthday commemoration at the Coral Ballroom of the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Honolulu, June 13.

The birthday commemoration will begin at 5 p.m., with a refreshment hour, followed by the formal portion at 6 p.m.

This year’s theme is “America’s Army: Our Profession.” The 25th Infantry Division Band will perform.

Uniform for this event is the Army Service Uniform with bow tie, or the Class A with white

shirt and bow tie.

Cost is \$90. Only cash or checks made out to “Army Birthday Commemoration” will be accepted. No “pay later” or “pay at the door” options will be available. Tickets are available through June 10.

For ticket information, contact your unit representative or Kole Miller at 438-9761.

Pacific Week

Check out other Pacific Theater Army Week activities at <https://www.facebook.com/USARPAC?ref=hl#!/pages/Pacific-ArmyWeek/109800352559321?ref=ts>.



State honors USARPAC during Military Appreciation Month



TAMC plans for disasters

ANA ALLEN
Pacific Regional Medical Command
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM
— Tripler Army Medical Center hosted its first-ever Hawaii Federal Coordinating Center (FCC) field patient reception area tabletop exercise at the Makai Recreation Center, here, Saturday.

The meeting brought military and civilian leaders from across the medical community together to simulate disaster responses for improved understanding and coordination in the event of an emergency.

Participants reviewed a newly produced FCC Hawaii standard operation procedure (SOP) that spells out roles and responsibilities and applied the guidance to a simulated disaster scenario. At the conclusion of the exercises, participants provided feedback on the SOP to strengthen the guide.

“The last place you want to be during a disaster is around the table meeting your counterparts for the first time,” said Col. Eric Tobiason, admin chief, FCC. “The purpose of this exercise is to meet everybody that’s going to show up during an actual activation, here, in Hawaii. Working our way through these exercises, we understand each other’s roles and who’s responsible for each component of the mission. This is the first time we’ve been able to do something quite like this.”

The event also provided military and civilian counterparts an opportunity to gain insight into each other’s organizations.

“The most interesting and strongest piece for me was getting to hear Tripler’s capabilities and how information is passed from one location to another in the event of a disaster and what that really looks like,” said Maria Lutz, director of Emergency Services, American Red Cross.

Toby Clairmont, director of Emergency Services and the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, said the training gives civilian key players a chance to get a broader view of emergency response procedures.

“They see what they do within their own organizations, but when they come to a tabletop exercise like this, they get an opportunity to see the full spectrum, and it helps to reinforce the importance of their role,” said Clairmont.

Hawaii FCC will host another table exercise in spring for the Hawaii National Guard.

TAMC recognizes 8 for National Nurses Week

CAPT. JOSHUA GSCHIEDMEIER
Pacific Regional Medical Command

HONOLULU — Eight staff members at Tripler Army Medical Center were recognized for excellence in nursing during a National Nurses Week ceremony, here, May 8.

Brig. Gen. Dennis Doyle, commander, Pacific Regional Medical Command and TAMC, along with deputies and department chiefs, were in attendance to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of all award winners and nominees.

“It’s exciting,” said Col. Jennifer Bedick, regional nurse executive for PRMC and deputy commander for nursing at TAMC. “It’s fun to be able to celebrate it. It’s hard sometimes, though, for nurses to pat themselves on the back, but it’s exciting when others recognize it and see it and share in that time.”

The Spark M. Matsunaga Veterans Affairs Medical Center also recognized four of its members with awards in nursing excellence.

The guest speaker for the event was retired Col. Stephanie Marshall, director for community partnerships for the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawaii and former TAMC commander, who thanked all nursing personnel in attendance.

“I want to acknowledge and thank all of you, the Tripler and the VA staff, for your service and your dedication to the care of our military and ohana, the active duty members, the family members and the veterans,” said Marshall.

During the event, leadership highlighted a recent accomplishment: the Army Nurse Corps Patient Caring Touch System Shared Account-



Ana Allen, Pacific Regional Medical Command Public Affairs

Nurses attend a ceremony honoring excellence in nursing at TAMC, May 8. Nurses around the country celebrated National Nurses Week, May 6-12.

ability Award was given to the Progressive Care Unit.

Bedick read a congratulatory letter from Maj. Gen. Jimmie Keenan, commander, Southern Regional Medical Command, market manager for the San Antonio Military Health Systems and chief of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, stating, “I am so proud of your team for recognizing the importance of certification, identifying the barriers and overcoming those gaps with your pro-

ject. I look forward to your next initiative; keep up the great work.”

The Army Nurse Corps provides responsive, innovative and evidenced-based nursing care integrated on the Army Medicine Team to enhance readiness, preserve life and function, and promote health and wellness for all those entrusted to care.

“It truly is selfless service for what we do every day,” said Bedick.



Photo courtesy 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Mark Giauque, information technology NCO, is the 94th AAAMDC’s NCO of the Year.

SOY: Competitors kept in suspense

CONTINUED FROM A-1

winners by the end of the contest.

“I felt confident that I had a good chance of winning. That has to be your attitude when you come into a competition like this,” Giauque said.

“I have the will,” Williams said, smiling, as she pointed to the “will” in Williams on her uniform. “And, I have the heart and adaptability.”

Brig. Gen. Dan Karbler, commander, 94th AAMDC, said, “My hat’s off to the leaders of the Soldiers in competition. Thank you for finding the time to give your Soldiers to prepare and participate in this year’s Warrior Challenge.”

Even though the Warrior Challenge lasted only two days, it was completely crammed with

events, and Soldiers were always kept in suspense of what event would be happening next.

“The way the unit ran the competition — not having a set standard schedule for us to follow — they always kept us guessing as to what was coming next,” said Staff Sgt. Brandon Bybee, operations plans and exercises NCO. “It really tested our reactions under pressure.”

Giauque and Williams will go on to compete in the U.S. Army-Pacific Command’s Warrior Challenge, commencing sometime in June. The USARPAC winners will then compete at the Army-level Warrior Challenge.

Williams said, “I’m not worried about the physical part, so I’m going to keep my nose in the books and prepare myself mentally for USARPAC.”

25th ID troops practice jungle survival at Balikatan

Story and photo by
LANCE CPL. SHALTIEL DOMINGUEZ
1st Marine Logistics Group

FORT MAGSAYSAY, Phillipines — The cobra hissed and flailed violently as Tech. Sgt. Riden A. Dumalig, an instructor with the Philippine Army Special Forces, demonstrated to American Soldiers how to prepare it for nourishing themselves in a jungle environment should the need arise.

This lesson was just one of the many learned by more than 60 Soldiers with 3rd Battalion, 7th Artillery Regiment; 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Regt.; and 3rd Bn., 4th Cavalry Regt., 25th Infantry Division, as they participated in a jungle survival training course as part of Exercise Balikatan 2014, May 4.

Units with the 25th ID conducted bilateral training exercises with their Philippine counterparts, May 5-15.

Instructors from Philippine Army Special Forces taught the Soldiers jungle survival fundamentals, such as trapping, foraging, nutrition, and preparing animals and plants for consumption. Among the resources used for survival were coconuts, herbs, wild goats, fish, chickens and even snakes.

“It’s important that Soldiers are able to survive off the land, sustain themselves, especially in environments where there’s not much opportuni-



Gen. Vincent Brooks (center), commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, and Philippine army Brig. Gen. Glorioso Miranda (left), commander, 7th Inf. Div., participate in a reception ceremony, May 7, during Balikatan 2014.

ties for resupply,” said 1st Lt. Nicholas Risher, 3-4th Cav. Regt. “If we can feed ourselves out there, then we can last longer and fight harder.”

The unique training provided the Soldiers with

valuable knowledge and skills from subject matter experts who have had decades of experience in their field.

“For me, the hands-on instruction we’re get-

ting from the Philippine Special Forces is the best part of the training,” said Risher, of Cincinnati, Ohio. “This is valuable training that we can’t get anywhere else. This is especially valuable at a time when we’re moving out of Iraq and Afghanistan, into other environments, and it allows us to be more prepared for conflicts in the Pacific or anywhere there’s a jungle environment.”

Furthermore, the event provided the U.S. Soldiers with opportunities to build rapport and camaraderie with the Philippine Special Forces instructors, as they shared not only food, but also stories and experiences from Afghanistan to the Southern Philippines.

“I like training and interacting with the American Soldiers,” said Dumalig. “It’s a good learning experience for both parties, and I feel that we are teaching them valuable knowledge that will help them when they conduct operations in the jungle.”

Balikatan 2014

Balikatan is an annual joint-exercise between the U.S. and the Philippines, designed to foster cooperation and interoperability between the two nations’ armed forces through training, as well as humanitarian aid and disaster relief projects.

FTX caps off a month of realistic training for 84th Engineers

Story and photo by
CAPT. BRENT HELLER
84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade
8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Moving personnel and equipment across the battlefield is a ground unit’s most important task in combat.

This task is especially true of sustainment Soldiers, for whom this isn’t an occasional mission, but a daily responsibility.

It is because of this importance that the Forward Support Company, 84th Engineer Battalion, held a field training exercise, or FTX, April 28-May 1 at Kahuku Training Area. The FTX was the culminating event after two weeks of platoon-level training for the maintenance and distribution platoons.

Prior to the FTX, the platoons went to Dillingham Airfield Training Area to brush up on Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, general convoy operations and troop leading procedures. Additional-

ly, each platoon spent time training on its specific Mission Essential Tasks (METL). For example, the Maintenance Platoon trained on using the 10-ton wrecker to perform recovery operations.

Taking a break from garrison operations to focus on training was a great benefit, said 1st Lt. Junior Matthews, Distribution Platoon leader.

“It was very nice to get away from our everyday support missions and train on Distribution Platoon’s most important METL task, to conduct and defend a tactical convoy,” he said. “That’s the very thing that will keep us alive in a combat situation.”

The culminating event consisted of squad lanes that required Soldiers to perform in a number of different scenarios based on an operations order designed to simulate the Korean Theater of Operations. Squad leaders were required to develop a plan, brief their teams, conduct rehearsals and inspections, and execute according to a common standard.

The lane was situated on a rough, mountainous road that tested not only the drivers’ ability to negotiate difficult terrain, but also provided the opposing force role players many opportunities to stage ambushes.

The realism of the environment was a big part of the FTX’s success, said Staff Sgt. Tristan Caballes, Operations sergeant.

“This is one of the most realistic training exercises I have seen,” he said. “It really benefits the Soldiers because they have an idea of what a tactical convoy might look like in combat.”

The training generated a great deal of positive feedback from Soldiers and junior leaders who enjoyed the opportunity to engage in uninterrupted training on their technical and tactical skills.

“It was a great experience and very motivational for the Soldiers who did this type of training for the first time,” said Spc. Shamari Glover, wheeled vehicle mechanic. “We learned and practiced a lot of real-world skills that will poten-



A sand table is used to brief members of the Forward Support Company, 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., on convoy execution during a culminating field training exercise held at Kahuku Training Area, April 28–May 1.

tially save lives.”

(Editor’s note: Heller is the commander, Forward Support Company, 84th Eng. Bn.)

NCO induction ceremony hosted by 516th Signal

Story and photo by
SGT. MAJ. WAYNE REYNA
307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion
516th Sig. Brigade, 311th Sig. Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Command teams from 30th Signal Battalion (Hawaii), 59th Sig. Bn. (Alaska), 78th Sig. Bn. (Japan) and 307th Expeditionary Sig. Bn. (Hawaii) attended a non-commissioned officer induction ceremony for more than 30 Soldiers of the 516th Sig. Bde.



Former drill sergeant Sgt. 1st Class Travis Lamb (right), battalion motor sergeant, 307th ESB, and Staff Sgt. Daniel Pine, 516th Sig. Bde., demonstrate the "rest positions at the halt," a drill and ceremony module drill sergeant candidates must recite verbatim.

“This was the best NCO induction ceremony I’ve attended in my 24-year career,” said Col. Cleo Thomas, commander, 516th Sig. Bn., acknowledging the tremendous efforts of all involved in coordinating the ceremony.

The 516th conducted its Best Warrior Competition (BWC), a weeklong competition of grueling events, to determine the NCO and Soldier of the Year.

During the ceremony, the brigade announced Staff Sgt. Andre Taylor, 307th ESB, and Spc. Jeremy Lombardi, 59th Sig. Bn., as the winners of the NCO and Soldier of the Year, respectively.

Also, 1st Sgt. Erika Lehmkuhl, Company A, 307th ESB, captivated hundreds of guests present as she sang the national anthem with patriotism and elegance.

Next, Soldiers performed a number of skits that included a Table of Remembrance for Fallen Comrades, the Evolution of Rank and Uniforms within the Army, and a candlelighting presentation by the first sergeants of the 307th ESB.

Command Sgt. Maj. Donald Wilson, 307th ESB senior enlisted leader, highlighted a number of key duty positions NCOs should strive to attain.

One NCO position of note is the drill sergeant. Sgt 1st Class Travis Lamb, 307th ESB battalion motor sergeant, and himself a former drill sergeant, demonstrated the rest positions at the halt and a drill and ceremony module that drill sergeant candidates must recite verbatim as a requirement to graduate from the prestigious U.S. Army Drill Sergeant School.

Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 516th Sig. Bn; 30th Sig. Bn.; 307th ESB; and Co. D, 53rd Sig. Bn. walked through the ceremonial NCO Corps archway, symbolizing their crossing the line of authority. As they crossed the archway, the inductees were greeted by the brigade and battalion command sergeants major and handed the Charge of the NCO, signed by their respective battalion senior enlisted leader.

Next, Command Sgt. Maj. Wilson verbally administered the Charge to the group.

The ceremony ended with the junior enlisted Soldiers standing and reciting, in unison, the Soldiers Request, a call for the newly inducted NCOs to train, care for and lead them through their military careers.

Finally, all recited the Creed of the NCO.

NCO Induction Ceremony

The NCO Induction Ceremony is deeply rooted within the NCO Corps and traces its roots back to the time of Frederick the Great. The event highlights a Soldier’s transition into the NCO Corps and marks the evolution of a newly promoted sergeant’s departure from the junior ranks.

The induction is a time to remember the inductee is no longer just a follower of orders, but a leader with all of the responsibilities and accountability that come with the job.

NEWS Briefs

Send announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to news@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

ACS Offline — All offices of Army Community Service on Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter will be closed for In-Service Training. ACS will reopen with normal business hours May 19.

For emergencies, contact the following:

- AER, 227-0144;
- AER Emergency Travel, (877) 272-7337 (after 4:30 p.m.);
- Family Advocacy, 226-3231;
- Victim Advocacy, 624-SAFE (7233); or
- Military Family Life Consultants, 222-7088.

TSP Strong —The Thrift Savings Program now requires all passwords be stronger, at least 10 characters in length. When you log into the “My Account” section of TSP, you’ll be prompted to change your password



Today

Flight Pattern — HDOT’s Airports Division advises motorists of modified traffic patterns entering the Honolulu International Airport. As of Saturday, new traffic signals at the bottom of the H-1 Freeway airport off-ramps (Exit 16), leading to the ground level (arrivals/baggage claim), and Aolele Street westbound approaching the Inter-Island Terminal, will have flashing yellow signal lights activated.

Motorists are advised to slow down and proceed with caution through the lights. After an orientation period, the signals will be activated with full stop lights.

The new stop lights and traffic patterns were installed to address safety issues created by vehicles weaving and merging through that section of the roadway. The traffic signals are part of a larger project for airport roadway

using new requirements.

Be aware that the TSP doesn’t email you to change your password, and TSP.gov is the only legitimate Web address.

Email links indicating you need to reset your password may send you to fraudulent websites, and these sites may steal your login credentials when you enter them.

If you suspect your account credentials were compromised, call the ThriftLine at (877) 968-3778, immediately, to take actions to protect your account.

20 / Tuesday

Get Smart — The Schofield Barracks Education Center in Yano Hall, Bldg. 560, hosts an Education Fair, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. See the News Briefs for May 9 at www.HawaiiArmyWeekly.com.

28 / Wednesday

Hurricane Season — USAG-HI begins the first part of the 2014 Makani Pahili Hurricane Exercise, an annual statewide exercise based on a powerful hurricane affecting the Hawaiian islands.

Part two of the HUREX begins July 9.

Are you prepared for a hurricane? Is your family prepared? See the related story, p. A-2.

Traffic Report lists closed roads, limited routes, construction detours and noise advisories received by press time from the Army and the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT). For an up-to-date list of Army traffic advisories, visit www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/info/trafficcalendar.htm. Unless otherwise noted, all phone numbers are 808 area code.

improvements.

Motorists are asked to drive with caution while familiarizing themselves with the new traffic signal location.

19 / Monday

Kawamura Gate — There’ll be a 24-hour closure on Santos Dumont Road and Warhawk Place. The road closure work will be performed in two phases.

- Phase 1- Santos Dumont Road will close from May 19-31.
- Phase 2- Warhawk Place will close from June 2-14.

22 / Thursday

Duck Road — There will be roadwork, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., June 22-23, at Schofield’s Duck Road, at the portion that turns near Bldg. 2800. One lane of traffic will remain open during the work.

PAU HANA

"When work is finished."

FRIDAY, May 16, 2014

SKIES *the Limit*

Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration & Skills



Jack Wiers, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

L.M. Kang, grand master of Unified Taekwondo of Hawaii, oversees the SKIES Unlimited tae kwon do programs at both Schofield Barracks and Aliamanu Military Reservation. The marshall arts instructor first began teaching 52 years ago at the age of 18 and oversees classes ranging from beginner to advanced tae kwon do.

FMWR CYS programs are designed to excite, inspire

LYNSEY BETH FUTA
Contributing Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The SKIES (Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration, and Skills) Unlimited Program is an organization that provides extracurricular classes and tutoring to children of Soldiers, and it's also one of the many programs under Child Youth & School (CYS) Services.

But it is more than just an after-school organization; SKIES is an institution that radiates excitement and encourages movement of the mind and body.

SKIES is not only a learning playground, but also a consistent beacon for relocated families trying to adjust.

Defining SKIES

Schofield Barracks and Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) offer classes to kids from the ages of 6 months to 18 years, and classes include various activities, such as hula and tae kwon do.

This program allows kids to "expand their knowledge, be inspired, explore and acquire skills," as SKIES Unlimited pledges on its web-site.

Kristine Yasuda, CYS instructional program specialist for SKIES, exemplifies the heart of the program, reiterating the importance of creating a fun outlet for kids and their families in the Army community by offering dance, martial arts, theater and music.

Each class is designed to raise energy, create fun and increase learning. Yasuda explains that SKIES encourages families to start their kids in the program at a younger age by offering classes such as "Mini Mozart," seeing that kids absorb the most before they are teenagers.

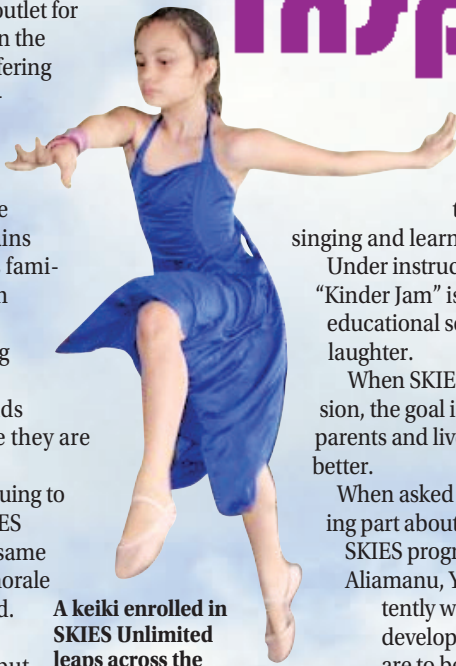
With hopes of continuing to expand worldwide, SKIES promises to instill "the same core values and good morale Armywide," Yasuda said.

SKIES is not only a learning playground, but also a consistent beacon for relocated families trying to adjust. With classes and activities 11

months out of the year, parents can keep their kids busy while lessening their own busy lives.

For parents who want to enjoy some time with their kids, "Kinder Jam" is a perfect

Inspire



A keiki enrolled in SKIES Unlimited leaps across the stage during a ballet routine performed at the 2014 Family Fun Fest on Weyand Field, recently. (Photo has been altered from its original form; background elements have been removed.)

class to take. Kids from 1 to 6 years old bring their parents with them to a class of dancing, singing and learning.

Under instructor Tamara Jenkins, "Kinder Jam" is a hoot with silly educational songs and lots of laughter.

When SKIES' classes are in session, the goal is smiling kids, happy parents and lives changed for the better.

When asked what is the most rewarding part about being affiliated with the SKIES program at Schofield and Aliamanu, Yasuda replied, "Inadvertently watching kids grow and develop, you see how proud they are to be a part of something."

Classes are held at the CYS building at Schofield Barracks



Young SKIES Unlimited dancers dazzle parents and onlookers with their ballet form during the 2014 Family Fun Fest public performance on Weyand Field, recently.

and at the AMR location in Salt Lake. Yasuda and her team are working on adding more times for existing classes, as well as new programs and classes, including foreign language options, such as Spanish and Japanese, plus a possible tumbling class.

SKIES reflects the community that everyone should be a part of, through good values and a lot of passion for life.

Let SKIES teach your children to exemplify these same values, because school doesn't have to be boring.

Excite



Keiki enrolled in the SKIES Unlimited Program throw a group "shaka" after performing a Tahitian dance number at the 2014 Family Fun Fest on Weyand Field, recently.



Keiki enrolled in the SKIES Unlimited Program take the stage to perform a Tahitian dance number at the 2014 Family Fun Fest on Weyand Field, recently.



Keiki enrolled in SKIES perform a ballet routine during the Family Fun Fest.

Learn

Photos by Allen Chris, Marketing Department; Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii



Briefs

Today

Right Army Night — This Army tradition returns to the SB Nehelani, 4-8 p.m., May 16, beginning with an ice breaker and featuring entertainment: a tug-of-war unit competition and other individual events, including poker. No entry fee; food and drink specials.

17 / Saturday

SKIES Hula Classes — Hula classes are offered as follows:
•AMR, 8:30 a.m., Saturdays;
•Schofield Hula 101, 9:15 a.m., 4 p.m. and 4:45 p.m.; and Intermediate, 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays.
Call 655-9818 for class availability or visit www.himwr.com.

19 / Monday

Workweek Lunch — SB Kolekole Bar & Grill (655-4466) and FS Mulligan’s Bar & Grill (438-1974) offer daily lunch, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Enjoy buffet-style or menu items.

Pau Hana Social Hour — SB Kolekole Bar & Grill hosts an after-work fun time, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Monday-Wednesday, and 4-6 p.m., Thursday-Friday. Enjoy discounted appetizers and domestic draft beverages. Call 655-4466.

Mongolian Barbecue — Select your favorites from a large variety of meats and vegetables, 5 p.m., every Monday, at SB Kolekole Bar & Grill, and grilling will be to your liking. Cost is 65 cents for each ounce.

20 / Tuesday

Taco Tuesday Night — SB Kolekole Bar & Grill offers three tacos, rice and beans specials for \$4.99. Call 655-4466.

Tropics Game Nights — SB Tropics Warrior Zone features monthly tournaments:
•Pool & Ping Pong tournaments every Tuesday night, and
•Spades tournaments held Wednesday nights.
Both tournaments feature a 5:30-6 p.m. sign-up, with tournaments beginning promptly at 6 p.m., and championship finals the last week of the month. Call 655-5698.

21 / Wednesday

Flag Wreath — Fort Shafter Library staff will show you how to make a flag wreath to hang on your door or wall for Memorial Day, 3-4 p.m. This program is free, with a limit of one wreath per family. Call 438-9521.

community calendar

Send announcements a week prior to publication to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

Miranda Lambert Tickets — Tickets go on sale 10 a.m., today, May 16, for the country music star’s Sept. 20 concert at the Blaisdell Arena. Tickets available through TicketMaster or call the box office at 527-5400.

Job Fair — The Army Career and Alumni Program and the Military and Family Support Center are hosting a mini-job fair, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Makai Recreation Center, 1859 McChord St., Hickam, Bldg. 1859.
Event assists Army and Air Force members affected by drawdowns and involuntary separations, with representatives from 35 companies attending. Call 474-1999.

Walk Like MADD — Annual walk begins at 6 p.m., May 16, at

25th ID CSM family finds new academic home in Wahiawa

DOE spotlights an outstanding military family during HMAM

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
News Release

After only 11 months in Texas, the Jones family was notified last July they were being relocated to Hawaii. “My first thought was, ‘we’ve been here not even a year, and we’re moving again?’” said Leah Jones. “My second wave of thoughts went to the rumors that Hawaii schools are so far behind the mainland.” Apprehensive about daughters McKenzie and Madelyn, Leah got on the phone and reached out to other Army families who had children enrolled at Leilehua High School. She was pleased to learn rumors about Hawaii schools were just misperceptions. The initial phone calls to other families marked the beginning of a smooth transition to Hawaii, according to Leah, whose husband is Command Sgt. Maj. Benjamin Jones, the senior enlisted leader of the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks. Their daughters McKenzie, a senior, and Madelyn, a junior, attend Leilehua, while firstborn child Tanner is a senior at Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York.

Leah also credits the Schofield’s School Liaison Office and the Leilehua registrar’s office for their help in working to get her daughters registered in time to start school in August.

Leilehua is the Jones girls’ third school in a matter of years: McKenzie and Madelyn began with a school in Carthage, New York, then moved to Killeen High in Killeen, Texas, before arriving at Leilehua. But Leah says the transition to Leilehua has been further helped by some of its outstanding teachers.

“A few who come to mind right away are Mr. Wetzel, Mrs. Paz and Mr. Ruff,” she said. “All three of these teachers have a classroom atmosphere that is inviting, and they encourage students to participate and (are) always available for extra tutoring, if needed. In fact, I can honestly say that the tutoring that is available here at Leilehua is more than my girls have experienced in any other of the two states we have lived.”

While both girls are Advanced Placement and honors students, they’re excelling outside of the classroom, as well. Both McKenzie and Madelyn are on the Mules’ varsity soccer team, and Leah said soccer coaches Erin Chow and Matt Smithe welcomed the girls from day one, which was very comforting for the entire Jones family.

During their free time, the Joneses immerse themselves in the local culture and lifestyle. “Our family loves to go on local hikes. The scenery on Oahu is breathtaking from so many different areas,” Leah said. “We enjoy walking around Chinatown and

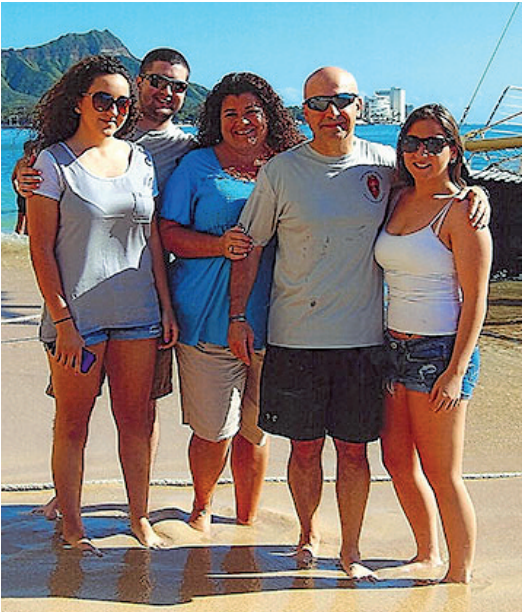


Photo courtesy Hawaii State Department of Education

WAIKIKI — Command Sgt. Maj. Benjamin Jones (second from right) and wife Leah (center), along with children (from left) Madelyn, Tanner and McKenzie, are adjusting to life in Hawaii after relocating from Texas, last year.

trying new noodle shops and shopping at local produce stands.”

Leah said Wahiawa eateries like Sunnyside, Dot’s and Shige’s are among the family’s favorites. When their son Tanner visited during the holidays, the family took a catamaran trip around Diamond Head.

Her daughters aren’t the only ones who seem to be making the most of their time at Leilehua. During the school day, Leah serves as the parent facilitator for Leilehua’s Parent Community Networking Center, and she thrives on the opportunity to see her girls’ new high school from a “very personal and insider’s view.”

Leah said, through her job, she has been able to meet many community members who play a vital role at Leilehua.

“I can say that I have worked with the local Lions Club in Wahiawa, Surfing the Nations, 2-27th Infantry from Schofield Barracks and Island Palm Communities (the housing management for Schofield Barracks),” Leah said.

“Each of these organizations have given in some way to Leilehua, be it participating in Career Day, judging for senior projects, working with the Nakayoshi Kai Club in building a strong relationship with the Holy Family Orphanage or judging for our Mighty Mule Awardee and Minehira Scholarship of Excellence.”

holders 18 and older are welcome. Call 655-5698.

23 / Friday

Friday Lunch Buffet — FS Hale Ikena hosts special Friday-themed lunches, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., \$10.95 per person. Call 438-1974.

Aloha Friday Barbecue — The SB Leilehua grill offers a Friday barbecue lunch special, beginning at 11 a.m., until sold out. Menu items include smoked brisket ribs, pulled pork, barbecue chicken, pork chops, baked beans and potato salad.

22 / Thursday

Leilehua Thursdays — Join Chef Devin Lee, 4:30-7:30 p.m., every Thursday, at Leilehua’s driving range for hot dogs and burgers. Menu items cost \$3-\$4. Call 655-7131.

Tropical Thursdays — Free weekly Texas Hold’em poker, 6 p.m., SB Tropics Warrior Zone. All ID card-

night is Keiki Night, 5-8 p.m., at SB Kolekole Bar & Grill (655-4466) and FS Mulligan’s Bar & Grill (438-1974). Kids younger than 10 years eat for a special price from the keiki menu.

18 / Sunday

Summer Youth Programs —The Performing Arts Center of Kapolei is having an open house, 2 p.m., May 18, at the Kapolei High School Cafeteria. PACKids is expanding its summer youth programs to include new acting and dance workshops, beginning June 2.

Also, enjoy the three-week summer Musical Theatre Program, which has a \$275 registration fee. Visit www.packapolei.org.

20 / Tuesday

Education Fair — Visiting colleges will provide representatives on post, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the SB Education Center, Sgt. Yano Library, 2nd Floor.

23 / Friday

Pearl Harbor Boat Tours — The National Park Service and Pacific Historic Parks offer a fully-narrated boat tour of Pearl Harbor, May 23-25, at 2:15 p.m., and May 26, at 3:15 p.m. Call 954-8726 or visit the Pearl Harbor events page at http://pacifichistoricparks.org/phh_events.php.

24 / Saturday

Annual Honolulu AIDS Walk —

The 23rd annual walk begins at 9 a.m., May 24, at the Honolulu Hale Civic Grounds. Walkers can now register as individuals or as a team with their friends, family and co-workers online at www.honoluluaidswalk.org. No cost to register.

29 / Thursday

Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month — Observance at the FS Post Exchange, 10 a.m.-noon; includes performances and free food samples.

31 / Saturday

AFCEA Scholarships — Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association Educational Foundation Hawaii Merit Scholarship Award applications are now available. Deadline to apply is May 31. Email Info@AFCEAHIEducationFoundation.org or call 479-4705.

June 1 / Sunday

Hurricane Season Begins— Hurricane season in Hawaii runs from June 1- November 30. For family hurricane preparedness information, see the related story, p. A-2.

BOSS Meetings — Single Soldiers and geographic bachelors are invited to Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meetings every Wednesday to discuss community service projects and fun upcoming programs. Call Spc. Jennifer Coggins, BOSS president, 655-1130.

Attend these meetings:
•North meetings, 3 p.m., 1st and 3rd Wednesday, SB Tropics Warrior Zone.
•South meetings, 10 a.m., 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, FS Bowling Center.

Keiki Night — Every Wednesday

Kaka’ako Waterfront Park to raise funds to support mission of Mothers Against Drunk Driving: to eliminate impaired driving. Event includes safety fair, treasure hunt and entertainment. Call 753-2374.

The Legend of Ko’olau — One man show scheduled for the historic Hawaii Theatre, 7:30 p.m., May 16. Tells the story of a Hawaiian family on Kaua’i fighting for its rights during Hawaiian sovereignty chaos in 1893.
For tickets, call the box office at 528-0506 or visit www.hawaiitheatre.com.

17 / Saturday

Military Band Appreciation Concert — Celebrate Honolulu’s largest military appreciation event, 6 p.m., May 17, at historic Hawaii Theatre, with bands from all service branches, including the 25th Infantry Division, participating.
Free tickets are available from the Hawaii Theatre box office and from local MWR centers. Seating for ticket holders begins at 5:30 p.m.
Those without tickets will be admitted at 5:50 p.m., depending on available seating.

Calendar abbreviations

8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command
25th ID: 25th Infantry Division
ACS: Army Community Service
AFAP: Army Family Action Plan
AFTB: Army Family Team Building
AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation

ASYMCA: Armed Services YMCA
BCT: Brigade Combat Team
BSB: Brigade Support Battalion
Co.: Company
CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services
EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program
FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and

Recreation
FRG: Family Readiness Group
FS: Fort Shafter
HMR: Helemano Military Reservation
IPC: Island Palm Communities
PFC: Physical Fitness Center
SB: Schofield Barracks

SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills
TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center
USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
USARPAC: U.S. Army-Pacific
WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield

worship Services

Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu.)

AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
HMR: Helemano Chapel
MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
SC: Soldiers’ Chapel, Schofield Barracks
TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services

•First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
•Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Mass

•Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
•Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF
•Sunday services:
- 8:30 a.m. at AMR
- 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
- 11 a.m. at TAMC
•Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at MPC and 12 p.m. TAMC

Gospel Worship

•Sunday, noon. at MPC
•Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

•Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
•Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
•Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

•Friday, 7:30 p.m. at PH

Pagan (Wicca)

•Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex Room 232

Protestant Worship

•Sunday Services
- 8:45 a.m. at MPC
- 9 a.m., at FD, TAMC chapel
- 10 a.m. at HMR
- 10:30 a.m. at AMR
- 10:45 a.m. at WAAF (Spanish language)
- 11 a.m. at SC (Contemporary)
Liturgical (Lutheran/Anglican)
•Sunday, 9 a.m. at WAAF

This Week at the MOVIES
Sgt. Smith Theater

Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to aafes.com under reeltime movie listing.

Oculus (R)

Fri., May 16, 7 p.m.



Studio Appreciation Advance Screening
FREE ADMISSION
BLENDED
(PG-13)
Sat., May 17, 5 p.m.

Tickets available at the SB Exchange Food Court. Open seating to non-ticket holders begins at 4:30 p.m.



Heaven is for Real
(PG-13)
Sun., May 18, 1 p.m.

Draft Day

(PG-13)
Sun., May 18, 4 p.m.

Noah

(PG-13)
Thurs., May 22, 7 p.m.
No shows on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

Local student designs CAV’s new logo, wins contest

Story and photo by
SGT. JESSICA DUVERNAY
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Leilehua High School and the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, have unveiled a new logo.

It was designed by 11th grade student Maxwell Mulbury, May 6.

The process started seven months ago, when 2-6th Cav. approached the high school to propose an art contest to design a new logo to be painted on all of the unit’s aircraft.

“We told the art teacher that we were looking for a design that would represent our Warrior Ethos, the 25th Infantry Division and the mission of the scout helicopter, the OH-58D,” said Lt. Col. George Ferido, squadron commander. “We were trying to integrate the unit back into the community by doing a project where we could involve a local school.”

The art contest, while open to the entire school, gained the interest of several art students who submitted designs for judging.

“We got quite a few interested parties, although in the end, we just had a few designs,”



The logo.

said Lawrence Taguba, art teacher for Leilehua High School. “There were just a few really good designs that came through, and we were pleased when that came about.”

The squadron’s leadership selected the winning logo from the Leilehua High School student submissions. The designs were anonymous during judging.

Mulbury’s work was chosen because of his simple design that portrayed the division and the mission of the unit.

“When I thought about the qualifications for the design, I felt the best idea I could do was to show a Hawaiian warrior defending the island and incorporate the division as the shield for the warrior,” Mulbury explained. “It took me a few days, and I had a few pointers to get it right.”

The new squadron design will be stenciled on the squadron’s .50 caliber ammunition cans, which attach to the side of the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior.

“I think it is appropriate because of the warrior spirit and what it represents for the helicopter,” said Ferido. “It also represents the division that we belong to, and it’s the spirit our Soldiers have being a part of this great division.”



Maxwell Mulbury (left), an 11th-grade student from Leilehua High School, accepts his award from Lt. Col. George Ferido, squadron commander, 2nd Sqdn., 6th Cav. Regt., 25th CAB, at the unveiling ceremony for the squadron's new logo, May 6.



Photo courtesy Tropic Lightning Museum

Leathernecks from Marine Corps Base Hawaii rip up the old sidewalk fronting the Tropic Lightning Museum as part of a two-week renovation project.

Marines aid museum renovation initiative

Damaged sidewalks redone

SERENA VALDEZ
Contributing Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Marines from the Combat Logistics Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, completed a two-week renovation project last week at Schofield Barracks’ Tropic Lightning Museum.

In cooperation with the Directorate of Public Works (DPW), U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, the project included replacing old, damaged sidewalk near the museum’s entrance and rebuilding the porch.

Planning for the project started in February, but work didn’t start until April 21.

The Marines were in charge of demolition, drafting the design and performing the labor for the entire project.

1st Lt. Michael Mader, commander of Combat Engineer Platoon, Eng. Services Company, Cbt. Logistics Battalion-3, MCBH, and officer in charge of the project, said the renovations were about standard compared

to most projects the platoon undergoes; however, the more difficult part was laying the concrete.

“Concrete is very unforgiving. Once it sets, it sets, and you can’t make any changes,” he said.

The Marines widened the sidewalk about 6 inches, allowing for better traffic flow to and from the museum. They also tinted the concrete to match the rest of the property’s sidewalk, maintaining the historic-looking element to the space, said Kathleen Ramsden, the museum’s curator.

While the platoon has some experienced members, there are also inexperienced Marines, which, for Mader, meant the project was a perfect learning opportunity for those Marines who weren’t as skilled, he said.

Material funding for the \$8,300 project came from DPW’s annual work plans where they approve and fund two projects, including Tropic Lightning Museum’s renovations.

If the Marines hadn’t agreed to volunteer for the project, material costs and hiring con-

tractors for the labor could have amounted to about \$30,000, said Steve Lai, troupe construction coordinator for DPW.

“Looking at it that way, I think we got a really good deal with this project. I’m really glad (the Marines) were able to come out and work with us,” Lai said. “The museum gets several visitors a day, and it just makes a better impression when the facility looks nice.”

Now that the project is finished, some last-minute touch-ups will be made to the museum’s property, including replacing broken plastic boxes and hydroseeding for grass that got damaged during the renovation. The museum is also slated for painting, said Ramsden.

“The Marines did a phenomenal job. It was amazing how they came in, hitting the ground running, and were able to accomplish a lot in a short amount of time,” she said. “For us at the museum, it certainly does enhance the face of the museum, and we certainly do appreciate their willingness to come out and do the work.”

Hale Kula students create winning ‘Olelo’ videos

MEGAN CUMMINGS
Hale Kula Elementary School

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — This year, a record number of 804 videos were entered in the 11th annual ‘Olelo Youth Xchange Student Video Competition.

When the awards were presented at the Ihilani resort, May 5, students from Hale Kula Elementary School were named winners in two categories while also being recognized as a finalist in one more category.

The two teams of Hale Kula students, who created “Choose Water for a Healthy Life” and “Be Cool, Come to School,” walked away with top category honors.

Hale Kula’s winning videos competed against over 20 videos in each category.

Fourth grader Deziree Ensrud and third graders Cheyenne Barfield, Falesoa Tufi and Hanna Strom created the animated, 30-second public service announcement “Choose Water for a Healthy Life” to educate people about the effects of sugary drinks and to be aware of the advertisements companies use to promote these drinks.

Counselor Marleen Clarke wrote a rap that 4th graders Nettie Oswalt, Ella Reibsome and Ariana Carter remixed with animation and green screen editing techniques to encourage students to “Be Cool, Come to School.”

In addition, 5th grader Skylar Malocha worked alongside Alex Bartholomees, Kent Shepherd and Jocelyn Stuck to create the mini-documentary video finalist “What Most Schools DON’T Teach,” which examines the importance of integrating coding in the K-12 curriculum.

Making a commitment

The mission of Youth XChange is to “learn the value and importance of speaking out and speaking strong by using the creative and powerful medium of video.”

Elementary, intermediate and high school students created videos with the purpose of addressing issues affecting their community, state, country or world.

Creating in digital media provides students with many opportunities to learn

See VIDEO B-7



Principal Jan Iwase, Hale Kula Elementary School

KO OLINA — Megan Cummings (left), technology/media coordinator with Hale Kula Elementary School, proudly stands with (from left) Deziree Ensrud, Hanna Storn, Cheyenne Barfield and Falesoa Tufi after winning their award for "Choose Water for a Healthy Life" at the ‘Olelo video competition at the Ihilani Resort & Spa, May 5.



Principal Jan Iwase, Hale Kula Elementary School

HONOLULU — The Hale Kula Robotics Team gathers for a photo at the FIRST LEGO League Championships, last December. Most recently, the team earned three first-place trophies against other Leilehua Complex area teams at the 2014 Elementary School Competition, May 3.

Cyborg Eagles celebrate

Hale Kula Robotics team caps a memorable year

VERA YAMANAKA
Hale Kula Elementary School

HALE KULA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL — The Hale Kula Cyborg Eagles Robotics team concluded a banner year of competition with three first place-trophies against other Leilehua Complex Area teams at the Wahiawa Middle School’s 2014 Elementary School Competition, May 3.

This year was filled with many firsts for the Hale Kula robotics team:

- It was the first time the team made it to the state level,
- The team won an award in FIRST Lego League, and
- It was the first time that any Hale Kula team has competed in an international setting.

The Cyborg Eagles team members are Brianna Lebron, Caleb Hagemaster, Christopher Leon, Jack Duncan, Alexandra Duffy, Jamie Nena, Joshua Honeycutt and Kennedy Pemberton.

They began the year with FIRST Lego League’s (FLL) “Nature’s Fury,” by competing at the district level in November with their Express Bot, tackling challenges including activating an airplane to glide, reuniting pets with people and traveling over rough terrain. Their success qualified them to compete at the state tournament in December.

The team won second place in the project portion for its innovative solution of creating a website and a Quick Response (QR) Code to inform tourists of the dangers of tsunamis.

A week after the FLL State Tournament, the team of Leon, Hagemaster and Duffy battled

See CYBORG B-7

Spouse appreciation can be found in Philly airport

Last week, in an ironic twist of fate, I spent Military Spouse Appreciation Day (May 9) stuck in the Philadelphia airport for hours trying to get back to Rhode Island.

It all started when I flew to Norfolk to be the keynote speaker at a luncheon honoring the nominees for 2014 Military Spouse of the Year.

Arriving early to find my bearings, I couldn't help but notice that emblazoned on every banner, place card, nametag, balloon, gift bag and program was the phrase "Heroes at Home."

As I found my seat at the head table, I wondered if anyone thought it was inappropriate to use the term "hero" in connection with the husbands and wives of military service persons. After all, it is the men and women in uniform who follow orders, report for duty and put themselves in harm's way to serve this country.

The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines are obviously heroes, but we military spouses are at home leading everyday lives. Does everyone appreciate the heroism in that?

Hoping the Caesar salad from lunch wasn't lodged between my two front teeth, I took my place behind the podium after being introduced. The crowd of over 250 — military spouses and their active duty mates — looked to me with hope in their eager eyes.

Will she make us laugh? Will she inspire us? Will she make us feel like heroes? Will she bore us to tears? The pressure was on.

Hiding my trembling hands behind the podium, I began the speech that I'd rearranged at least a dozen times in the weeks leading up to the event. Rehearsing alone in my shower had not given me any idea of how this crowd might receive my words. I hoped it wouldn't be a flop.

A few giggles erupted in the back when I threw out my first joke. They

were

weren't

weren't sure if I had intended to be funny. The second joke prompted an even rumble of chuckles. By the third joke, I heard undeniable belly laughs.

Like a shot of adrenaline, the crowd's laughter fueled my desire to make these military folks, my folks, feel good about themselves. I had relied heavily on my scribbled notes when rehearsing, but now that we trusted each other, I didn't even need to glance down.

I've got this.

We all laughed a while longer, about the little things we military spouses do to cope with managing the home alone: chocolate, bad reality television, spontaneous driveway happy hours and — my personal favorite — secret cans of Pringles stashed under the seat of the minivan.

But I knew I had to get serious.

"Each military spouse copes with stress in

his or her own way, but we all have one very important thing in common," I said, as a hush fell over the room. "We all love a military service member. We love that our spouses sacrifice to serve their country. We get misty when we hear the national anthem or see a flag unfurl.

"We live this life with a common sense of patriotism," I continued, "and we know that despite the inevitable hardships, military life is worth living because, not only is it an 'adventure,' it is 'honorable.'"

"The sense of duty that drives active duty service members also drives their spouses. Regardless

of the hardships, we are deeply proud to be military spouses and honored to live this uniquely challenging way of life," I continued.

"Certainly, the men and women in uniform here today are heroes. But," I said, gesturing out over the podium to my fellow spouses, "it is because of your dedication, your hard work, your uncommon strength and your service to this country that all the military spouses here today are undoubtedly 'Heroes at Home.'"

The next day, after missing my connecting flight in Philly and being told that I was not guaranteed another flight out for over eight hours, I saw a sign for the airport USO.

Isn't that just for service members? Will I be allowed in? I wondered.

Lugging my bags through the maze of corridors and moving walkways, I followed the signs.

"Welcome to the Liberty USO!" an elderly volunteer blurted as I entered the office space.

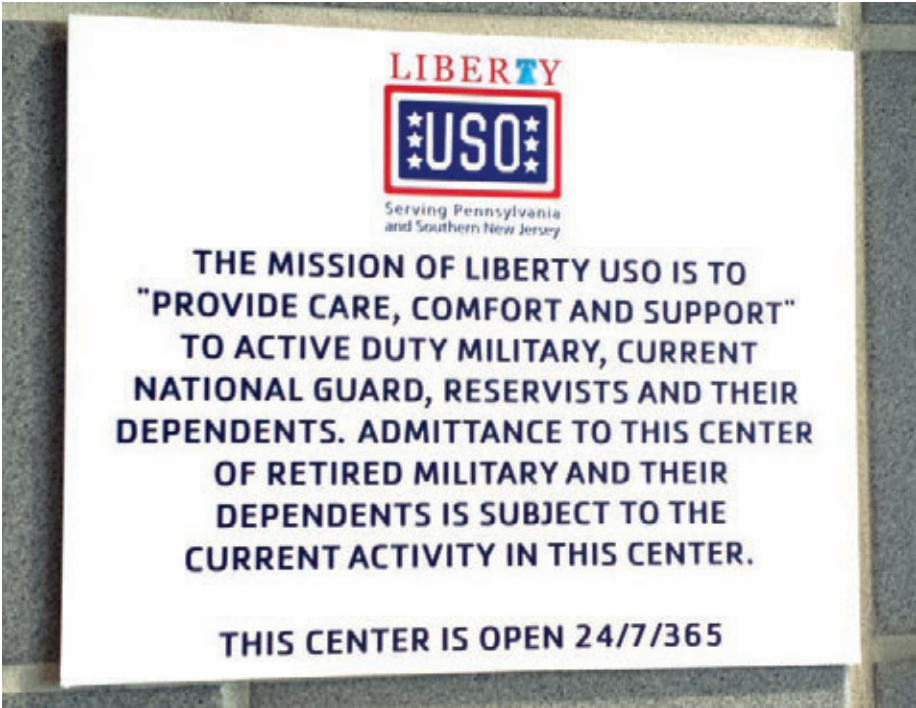
After checking my military dependent ID, the friendly retiree explained to me that I was welcome to home-cooked food, lounge furniture, movies and Wi-Fi.

"Everything is free," he said, with a smile. Despite the fact that I was stuck in Philly, I found a place where I belonged, and it felt great to be appreciated.

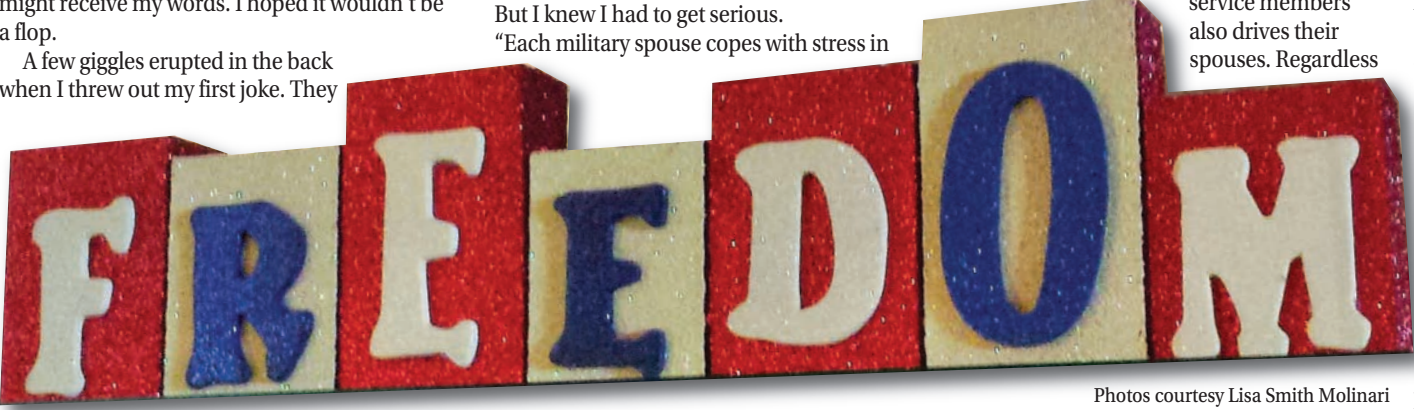
THE MEAT & POTATOES OF LIFE

LISA SMITH MOLINARI
Contributing Writer

The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines are obviously heroes, but we military spouses are at home leading everyday lives. Does everyone appreciate the heroism in that?



The Liberty USO, located inside the Philidelphia Airport, provides free "care, comfort and support" to military members and their families who find themselves delayed at the airport.



Photos courtesy Lisa Smith Molinari

"Freedom" display inside the Philadelphia Airport's Liberty USO.

AAFES offers 'buddies' benefits

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Public Affairs

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EXCHANGE

TRICARE ‘Blue Button’ gives easy access to health

Story and photo by
ANA ALLEN
Pacific Regional Medical Command

HONOLULU — It’s now easier than ever for TRICARE pa-tients across the island of Oahu to securely access their lab re-sults, X-ray findings and refill information for medication.

TRICARE Online features the “Blue Button,” which allows beneficiaries to obtain their personal health information at the click of a button.

Capt. Preston Reed, Diagnostic and Therapeutic flight commander for the 15th Med Group, said placing patients in the driver’s seat of their own health is now a simple process.

“The Blue Button is great because it’s a self-service that

allows the beneficiary to be more engaged in their own health care,” said Reed.

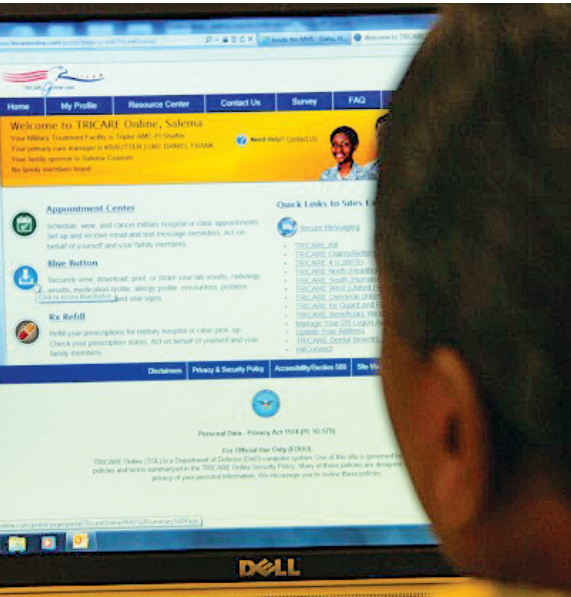
Reed says this fact is especially important given the transient nature of military patients.

“It’s a good thing because it allows for a continuous record of treatment received at any military treatment facility,” he added.

Capt. Salema Coaxum, deputy chief of Business Operations and eMulti-Service Marketing Office at Tripler Army Medical

Center, said the Blue Button will help patients cut down on traffic and parking battles when health information for the en-tire family can be conveniently accessed from the comfort of home.

“As a military spouse, you can see your personal radiology re-sults and your children’s results if they are under the age of 18. You can also see any results that are still pending and any re-quests that were made by your provider,” said Coaxum.



A TRICARE Online beneficiary, here, uses the "Blue Button" feature to easily access personal health information through the secure site. The Blue Button is available after secure login as the beneficiary.

TRICARE Signup and Information

If you are a TRICARE beneficiary living on Oahu and would like more information on enrollment, pri-mary care manager changes or other TRICARE infor-mation, call UnitedHealthcare Military & Veterans at 1-877-988-WEST (1-877-988-9378), or visit online at <https://www.uhcmilitarywest.com>.

Cyborg: Designs win

CONTINUED FROM B4

other robots in the Hawaii Middle School VEX Champi-onship. Their VEX robot blocked opponents and pushed Bucky Balls and inflatable balls around the field to help their alliance. Their efforts led them to compete in the elimina-tion round, the only elementary school that qualified.

In January Lebron, Nena and Pemberton operated their robot in the inaugural year of VEX IQ. They deftly operated their Clawbot robot to run on its own to score points in the Programming Skills and tested their driving skills in the Robot Skills.

The girls’ scores in the Robot Skills qualified them to com-pete at the state level. The girls upgraded their robot, which earned them the Design Award; it also qualified them to compete at the 2014 VEX World Championship in Anaheim, Calif., in April.

April came quickly and Hale Kula was one of eight schools representing Hawaii in the VEX IQ World Champi-onship where only 8 percent of all teams who compete inter-nationally qualify. Twenty-six different countries were rep-resented at this tournament, and the Hale Kula team part-nered with teams from Puerto Rico and China, as well as with teams from around the U.S.

This year very successful and couldn’t have been possible without the backing of all Cyborg Eagles parents, families, teachers, administrators and friends.

Grants from Friends of Hawaii Robotics, the Schofield Barracks Hui Na’ Wahine and Hale Kula’s Parent Teacher Organization were an important part of the team’s progress. Coaches Tami Sego and Vera Yamanaka want to thank ev-eryone for their support.

Look for robotics team successes next year.

Video: Keiki explore TV

CONTINUED FROM B4

new skills. Students research, collaborate and synthesize their message into a storyboard with guidance from their teacher.

A 30-second public service announcement can take hours of work and a creative mind to put the message together us-ing different media tools.

Malocha described the project as “different from other classroom projects, because instead of just sharing with your classroom, you get to share it with the whole state.”

Teacher Rachel Armstrong, librarian Michelle Colte and technology/media coordinator Megan Cummings worked with the students to explore creative ways to share their message via different technology and media tools.

The `Olelo Youth XChange experience is designed to en-courage and motivate students to get involved by sharing important messages.

(Editor’s note: Cummings is the technology coordinator at Hale Kula.)

Watch It!

Television air dates on Olelo53 follow:

- May 25 at 7:30 p.m.
- May 26 at 3:30 p.m.
- June 1 at 1:30 p.m.
- June 2 at 3:30 p.m.

Also, see Hale Kula’s public service announce-ments and mini-documentary on the HKES Kids Vimeo channel at <http://vimeo.com/channels/hkes> kids and review all entries at www.olelo.org/yxc/.